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Descriptions of some new Species of Ants. By Horace Donisthorpe, F.Z.S., F.E.S., &c.

CERAPACHYINÆ.

Phyracaces hewitti, sp. n.

Head longer than broad, a little broader in front than behind, feebly rounded in front, slightly sinuate before posterior angles, which are somewhat strongly pointed; occipital border deeply concave, with a well-marked margin which is continued round posterior angles to the gula: eves large. round, convex, situated in centre of sides of head: mandibles slightly concave externally, with blunt points, a very finelydenticulate terminal border; clupeus very short; carinæ of cheeks well marked: frontal caring strongly raised with sharp edges, converging abruptly at base, and enclosing a deep round fovea; antennæ rather long; scape a little longer than half the head, narrow at base and considerably thickened at apex; funiculus thickened before apex, none of the joints transverse but gradually increasing in length, with last joint tapering to a point, and as long as the two preceding taken together. Thorax about twice as long as broad, subrectangular from above, convex, slightly contracted in middle, distinctly margined anteriorly and more feebly posteriorly, without trace of dorsal sutures; petiole subrectangular and convex above, about as long as broad, slightly broader behind, base and lateral borders margined, the lateral borders ending in a small turned-up point at posterior angles, armed on the narrow ventral surface with a blunt tooth-like triangular projection facing forward; post-petiole longer and slightly broader than petiole, longer than broad, convex above with rounded sides and apex, anterior border margined and with slightly projecting anterior angles, in profile a suture and groove divide the upper and lower halves, and the ventral surface is furnished anteriorly with a short blunt tooth directed forwards Gaster with first segment longer and broader than post-petiole, about as long as broad, rounded

at sides and broadest a little beyond middle; pygidium subcircular, with very indistinct little teeth at sides. Legs

slender, somewhat compressed. Long. 5.8 mm.

¿.—Black; antennæ, mandibles, legs, apical margins of gaster and tooth of petiole testaceous, coxæ and femora darker; body clothed with more or less decumbent longer and shorter yellow hairs, which are more abundant on the

gaster.

Head round, about as broad as long, including eyes, which are very large, oval and convex; ocelli well developed; mandibles well developed, triangular, striate at base, armed with three or four teeth on terminal border, the apical one being longest and bluntly pointed; clypeus very prominent, raised, convex, subtriangular, rounded at sides and truncate at base, coarsely reticulate; frontal area shallowly excavated, smooth, with a few raised ridges; frontal carinæ widely separated, with sharp raised edges, interspace strongly but less closely reticulated than clypeus; occiput and rest of head reticulated like clypeus; antennæ short and stout, not reaching anterior border of scutellum, scape very short, glabrous; funiculus with 1st and 2nd joints glabrous, 3rd to 12th covered with a short suberect yellowish pubescence; 1st joint shorter than scape. 2nd joint very short and strongly transverse, 3rd to 11th longer than broad, of about equal length and breadth, 12th a little longer than 11th, slightly tapering to apex. Thorax: pronotum transversely reticulate; mesonotum longer than broad, longitudinally reticulate; Maurian furrows well marked; scutellum transverse, raised above the level of the metanotum and epinotum, furnished with raised. not very close, longitudinal ridges, and armed posteriorly with two fairly long teeth; epinotum longer than broad, narrowed posteriorly, the dorsal surface considerably longer than the declivity, strongly and coarsely reticulate. Petiole pedunculate, node coarsely reticulate, about as long as broad, rounded above, convex, higher than post-petiole, furnished at base of ventral surface with a small blunt tooth-like projection facing downwards; post-petiole transverse, broader than petiole, sides more rounded in front than behind, faintly reticulate and granularly punctate; gaster very finely granulately punctured, with sides gradually narrowed to apex, broadest before middle; pygidium bluntly pointed.

Wings: fore wing with one closed cubital cell. Legs

moderate. Long. 6.2-6.9 mm.

Described from two workers and two males taken by Mr. J. Hewitt at Kuching, Sarawak, in 1906-7. Ex Coll. Cameron. Types in Brit. Mus.

PONERINA.

Platythyrea thwaitesi, sp. n.

2.—Reddish brown; the antennæ and legs lighter than the body, with the usual pruinose surface, very finely and densely punctured, but the larger superadded punctures, generally present in this genus, almost wanting; eyes dark brown, side-borders of frontal carinæ narrowly brown.

Head oblong, feebly rounded at sides, slightly broader in front, posterior angles rounded, posterior border feebly excised; mandibles long, curved, with eight distinct teeth to terminal border, apical tooth long and pointed; antennæ long, scapes long and robust, extending by about one-fifth of their length beyond the posterior angles of the head; funiculus slightly broader in middle, second joint longer than first and third, apical joint finely pointed; clypeus large, convex, with rounded entire anterior border, and distinct posterior suture; frontal carinæ very prominent, fused posteriorly, with distinct lateral lobes, and a shallow excavation in the centre; frontal furrow traceable as a very faint line a little beyond the apical half of the head; eyes moderate. rounded, nearly flat, situated at sides on anterior half of the head; ocelli very small and faint. Thorax narrow, slightly compressed at sides; pronotum longer than mesonotum, promesonotal suture semicircular, clearly defined; mesonotum slightly broader than long; scutum of mesonotum marked with two shallow, but distinct, fine longitudinal lines arising from the suture of the præ-scutellum, which is narrow; scutellum round, flat; metanotum narrow, with deep sutures; epinotum with dorsal surface about equal to its declivity in length, declivity distinctly but shallowly excavated. Legs long. The right hind wing only present. Petiole long, narrow, looking flat from above, in profile the dorsal surface is rounded, sloping down and angled anteriorly, abruptly cut off posteriorly before the junction with the post-petiole, the cut-off part distinctly excavated with sharp edges, the ventral surface is furnished at base with a distinct projecting rounded keel. Post-petiole as long as broad, but narrowed in front and slightly broader at apex than gaster, and not separated from it by a constriction. Gaster with first segment about as long as post-petiole, the remaining segments short and telescoped into it; pygidium furnished with a few short fine hairs; sting small. Long. 8.4 mm.

Described from a single female taken by Dr. Thwaites in Ceylon, and presented to the British Museum in 1867.

Type in Brit. Mus.

PSEUDOMYRMINÆ.

Tetraponera poultoni, sp. n.

§.—Black; mandibles, antennæ, tibiæ, tarsi, articulations
of the legs and apex of segments of gaster yellowish brown;
scapes, tibiæ and tarsi lighter, palpi yellow, femora and teeth
of mandibles dark brown. Body clothed with very fine short
decumbent yellowish-grey pubescence, and a few scattered
yellow hairs, longer and more abundant on the clypeus and
apex of the gaster. Head and thorax dull, finely rugosely
punctured; petiole, post-petiole, and gaster somewhat shining
and minutely coriaceous.

Head a little longer than broad, slightly widened behind, with rounded posterior angles; clypeus with five small teeth on anterior border, the central one blunt, broader and longer than the other four; eyes very large, prominent, oblong-oval, situated on the posterior half of the head; only the two basal ocelli, which are small, visible; mandibles shining, striate, and with a few scattered nunctures. Thorax: upper surface flat, bordered very distinctly throughout as far as the declivity of the epinotum, where it becomes less evident and eventually disappears; pronotum broader than long, with distinct but rounded shoulders; mesonotum distinctly defined, semicircular anteriorly, almost straight posteriorly, slightly convex, and sloping towards the metanotum; metanotum very indistinctly defined, the posterior suture only represented by a slight semicircular furrow; epinotum long, flat, the declivity gradually rounded; petiole distinctly pedunculate, with upper surface convex and rounded longitudinally. much narrowed anteriorly, broadest behind middle, abruptly contracted posteriorly, with very sharp distinct edges, the underside is wedge-shaped, the ventral surface is sharp and much narrower than the basal surface, and has a small tooth at base directed forward and a larger one at apex directed backward; post-petiole pointed anteriorly, broadest behind middle, thence contracted to junction with the gaster; gaster elongate, first segment longer and broader than the rest, broadest behind middle and slightly contracted to apex; pygidium strongly pointed. Femora inflated in the middle above and below, but laterally compressed. Long. 7.5 mm.

This species is related to T. mocquerysi, André, and T. anthracina, Santschi, but, besides being a larger and more robust insect, the shape and construction of the petiole will at once separate it.

Described from a worker which had been ejected from an ant-lion's pit in Uganda, and found by Mr. J. E. M. Mellor

on October 10, 1928. Type in the Hope Department, Oxford University Museum. I have named this species in honour of my friend, Professor E. B. Poulton, F.R.S., &c., who had asked me to identify this and other species of ants taken at the same time.

Tetraponera scotti, sp. n.

Head alutaceous with very fine small scattered punctures; frontal furrow fine but traceable to vertex; eyes moderate, round-oval; ocelli wanting; mandibles punctate and striate, furnished with short yellow bristle-like hairs; antennæ with funiculus considerably thickened at apex, almost forming a three-jointed club. Length of head without jaws 69 mm.; breadth 0.525 mm.

2.—Shining black, elongate; body clothed with very fine scattered short decumbent yellow pubescence which is more noticeable on the gaster. Whole body distinctly but finely

alutaceous and with fine scattered punctures.

Head long, oblong, almost parallel-sided, truncate in front, posterior angles rounded; jaws yellowish red, except base and two apical teeth which are black, punctate, striate, and furnished with scattered fairly long yellow bristle-like hairs; clypeus rather strongly punctured and furnished at apex with several small teeth; lobes of frontal carinæ yellowish red; cheeks and region of the frontal furrow longitudinally striate; vertex and occiput more shining than anterior part of head; frontal furrow traceable as far as centre of head between eves; eyes large, oblong-oval; ocelli distinct; (antennæ missing, probably similar in shape and form to those of \heartsuit). Thorax with the punctures larger and more scattered than those of head; shoulders rounded; petiole, post-petiole, and gaster more finely punctured than thorax; petiole triangular above, broadest posteriorly, with blunt posterior angles, higher than post-petiole; post-petiole rounded, globular, broadest posteriorly; gaster elongate, narrow, apex furnished with long yellow hairs; sting long. Legs stout, but fairly long; femora incrassate; tarsi larger than tibiæ. Long. 6 mm.

Described from the head of a $\mbox{$\uprightarpi}$ and an entire $\mbox{$\uprightarpi}$ taken in Abyssinia by Dr. Hugh Scott, in Jem-Jem Forest (8000–9000 ft.), September 1926. The head of the $\mbox{$\uprightarpi}$ was found clasped in the legs of the $\mbox{$\uprightarpi}$, and the other parts of the $\mbox{$\uprightarpi}$

were, somehow, unfortunately detached and lost.

MYRMICINA.

Ocymyrmex turneri, sp. n.

\$.—Shining, dark blackish brown, funiculi of antennæ, tibiæ, tarsi, articulations of the legs, mandibles (except external border and teeth, which are black), and anterior border of cheeks testaceous. Clothed with longer and shorter scattered white hairs which are considerably less numerous than in O. barbiger, Emery. The serial hairs on the clypeus are curved over the mandibles, those on the mandibles are curved over the mouth, and those behind the mentum, the ammochætæ, are curved forwards.

Head about as broad as long, not so broad as in O. barbiger, especially at base where it is distinctly contracted behind eyes, finely striate, longitudinally on cheeks and front, and curved inwards from eyes and transversely at base; there is no cross-striation, or reticulate sculpture, as in O. barbiger; clypeus somewhat convex, slightly projecting in centre of anterior border, the projection being faintly bidentate; mandibles deeply striate, more so than in O. barbiger, armed with five strong teeth, the apical one longest and curved; eyes convex and slightly more projecting than in O. barbiger; frontal carinæ with smaller lobes, and narrower frontal area than in that species; antennæ with long scapes projecting further beyond the posterior angles of the head, and the funiculus less thickened towards the apex than in O. barbiger, first joint not as long as the second and third taken together. Thorax contracted in middle with sutures only faintly indicated at the sides, dorsal surface almost entirely smooth and impunctate, faintly transversely striate on epinotum, the sides of the pronotum with faint, widely separated, longitudinal striæ, the rest of the thorax with sides more strongly striate, with widely separated, very oblique striæ (in O. barbiger both the dorsal and lateral surfaces of the thorax are strongly striate). Petiole with peduncle shorter and less narrowed anteriorly than in O. barbiger, the node almost smooth, whereas in the latter species it is strongly striate transversely; post-petiole narrower and almost smooth, while in O. barbiger it is distinctly transversely striate; gaster smooth and shining, the first segment, seen from above. evenly convex from the base, not sub-pedunculate (this character separates O. turneri from all the other species of the genus except O. barbiger). Legs long and slender. Long. 5 mm.

Described from a single & taken by Mr. R. E. Turner at Walvis Bay, S.W. Africa, on December 1, 1927. Type in Brit. Mus.

This species is allied to O. barbiger, Emery, but is darker in colour, smaller, much less strongly sculptured, and considerably more shining, besides the other differences pointed out in the description.

FORMICINÆ.

Camponotus (Tanæmyrmex) ligea*, sp. n.

Worker major.—Black, shining; legs (except first three joints of the tarsi, which are dark brown), coxe, articulations of scape and funiculus red; funiculus dark brown. Body furnished with scanty, widely scattered, outstanding yellow hairs, and very minute decumbent yellow hairs.

Head triangular, slightly excised posteriorly, broadest behind eves but a little before occiput, posterior angles rounded; mandibles striate, armed with five teeth of about equal length; clypeus distinctly carinate, broadest at apex, narrowed to base, anterior border produced and bluntly denticulate, finely and very evenly shagreened, with a few scattered shallow punctures, rest of head even more finely shagreened, with smaller and somewhat closer scattered punctures; frontal area small, transverse; frontal carinæ reaching to middle of eyes, converging in front and slightly diverging behind with a row of punctures along their internal rims; frontal furrow fine and shallow, not as long as frontal carinæ, terminated at base by two shallow foveæ placed one behind the other; eyes large, round; ocelli wanting; antennæ fairly long; scape somewhat compressed, narrowed and curved at base, slightly thickened towards apex, extending beyond occipital border by about four times its breadth; funiculus covered with thick erect pubescence. Thorax considerably longer than broad, and considerably narrower than head; pronotum about as long as broad, narrowed in front and broadest behind middle, narrowly margined anteriorly; mesonotum shorter than pronotum; metanotum narrow, posterior border faintly indicated: epinotum longer than mesonotum and metanotum taken together. dorsal surface longer than the somewhat abrupt declivity; scale convex in front, flat behind, longer than broad, narrowed at apex and bluntly pointed, almost smooth. Gaster longer than broad, faintly striate transversely, convex, rather abruptly pointed at apex. Legs: femora and tibia compressed, tibiæ with decumbent hairs beneath. Long. 9 mm.

^{* &}quot;Ligea" is the name of a wood-nymph in classical literature, and is chosen for this species in allusion to the specimens having been found in wood.

Worker minor.—Head and gaster black, thorax and scale chestnut-brown, legs and articulations of scape and funiculus red. Sculpture and pilosity as in the worker major.

Head longer than broad, slightly broader behind than in front, broadest before occipital border; clypeus more strongly carinate; scape extending beyond the occipital border by more than half its length; rest as in the worker major. Long. 6.7 mm.

Described from one worker major and three worker minors, taken by Dr. H. Scott in Abyssinia, from an ants' nest in a rotten tree-trunk on Mt. Chillálo, ca. 9000 ft., on November 19, 1006. Three in Bait, Mus.

12, 1926. Types in Brit. Mus.

The above species is probably near to Camponotus (Tanæmyrmex) natalensis, Smith, but is a very considerably smaller and more compact insect. The legs are shorter in proportion, and the body more shining, &c.